

French Polynesia

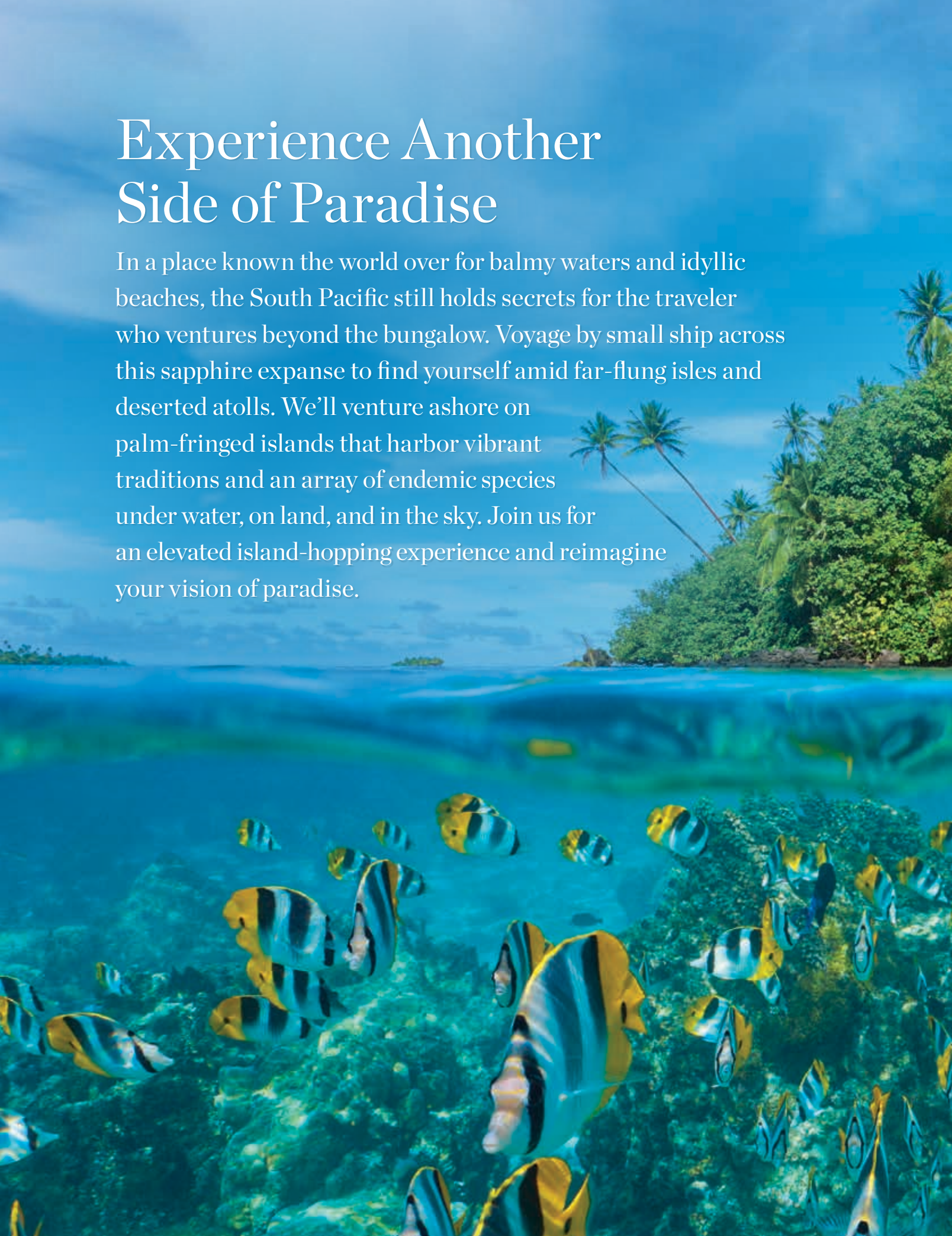
and the Pacific Islands

2022-2025 VOYAGES | [EXPEDITIONS.COM](https://www.expeditions.com)



Experience Another Side of Paradise

In a place known the world over for balmy waters and idyllic beaches, the South Pacific still holds secrets for the traveler who ventures beyond the bungalow. Voyage by small ship across this sapphire expanse to find yourself amid far-flung isles and deserted atolls. We'll venture ashore on palm-fringed islands that harbor vibrant traditions and an array of endemic species under water, on land, and in the sky. Join us for an elevated island-hopping experience and reimagine your vision of paradise.





Contents

The Lindblad-National Geographic Difference	4-5
Blue Waters Run Deep	6-7
Cultures of the South Pacific	8-9
Choosing Your Ideal South Pacific Voyage	10-11

French Polynesia

Wild Polynesian Escape: Tahiti to Bora Bora	14-15
Pearls of the Pacific: Exploring the Society and Tuamotu Islands	16-17
Ancient Polynesia: Tuamotu and Marquesas Islands	18-19
Easter Island to Tahiti: Tales of the Pacific	20-21

Fiji and Beyond

Tahiti to Fiji: Reefs, Lagoons & Volcanic Isles	24-25
Rites and Relics: From the Solomon Islands to Fiji	26-27
Under the Southern Cross: New Zealand to Melanesia	28-29
Journey Across the Remote Pacific	30-31

Extensions

Mo'orea, Bora Bora, and The Brando	32-33
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Expedition Planning Info

Deck Plans	34-37
Offers and Reservation Information	38-39

Cover photo: Handmade seashell ring, Huahine. © David Vargas

The Lindblad-National Geographic Difference

Purpose-Built Expedition Ships

On your expedition aboard *National Geographic Orion* or *National Geographic Resolution*, explore secluded atolls, remote bays, gently-winding rivers, and the shallow waters of small islands that larger ships cannot reach. Our expedition ships are intimately scaled and luxuriously appointed for maximum comfort, but purpose-built to safely navigate vast expanses of the world's largest ocean. They enable us to explore wild and little-known regions of the world like Micronesia, observe dugongs and other remarkable wildlife, and encounter remote cultures on far-flung Polynesian archipelagos.

The Most Experienced Team

Explore with an expedition team devoted to ensuring you have unforgettable experiences. Naturalists to help you identify endemic birds

and understand whale migrations, historians to give context to World War II battle sites, and cultural experts to interpret village dances.



Exclusive Undersea Program

Only with Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic does an Undersea Specialist dive or use a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) that can descend 1,000 feet to record the dynamic marine ecosystems we explore. Footage of the deep reaches of the incredible coral reefs is shared with guests during our daily Recaps, enabling all to witness the sharks, rays, and brilliantly colored schools of rainbow parrotfish in the watery world below us.

Active Exploration Every Day

Our itineraries feature a range of activities designed to immerse you in these spectacular



environments.

Whether you choose to hike through rain forests in Samoa, paddle board in a pristine Fiji lagoon, or

ride the current into a lagoon on a world-famous drift dive in Fakarava, you will be able to explore

your way, each day. For those seeking a less-active experience, Zodiac cruises allow guests to explore the beautiful sea below from above and are accompanied by an expert naturalist. Activities are always included in the expedition price.

An Unparalleled Experience Onboard

Traveling to wild and remote isles doesn't have to mean renouncing superb amenities and culinary experiences. Beautifully

appointed cabins, suites, and common areas reflect the sights, sounds, and artistic traditions of the Pacific, and meals feature local cuisines and sustainable ingredients sourced directly from nearby

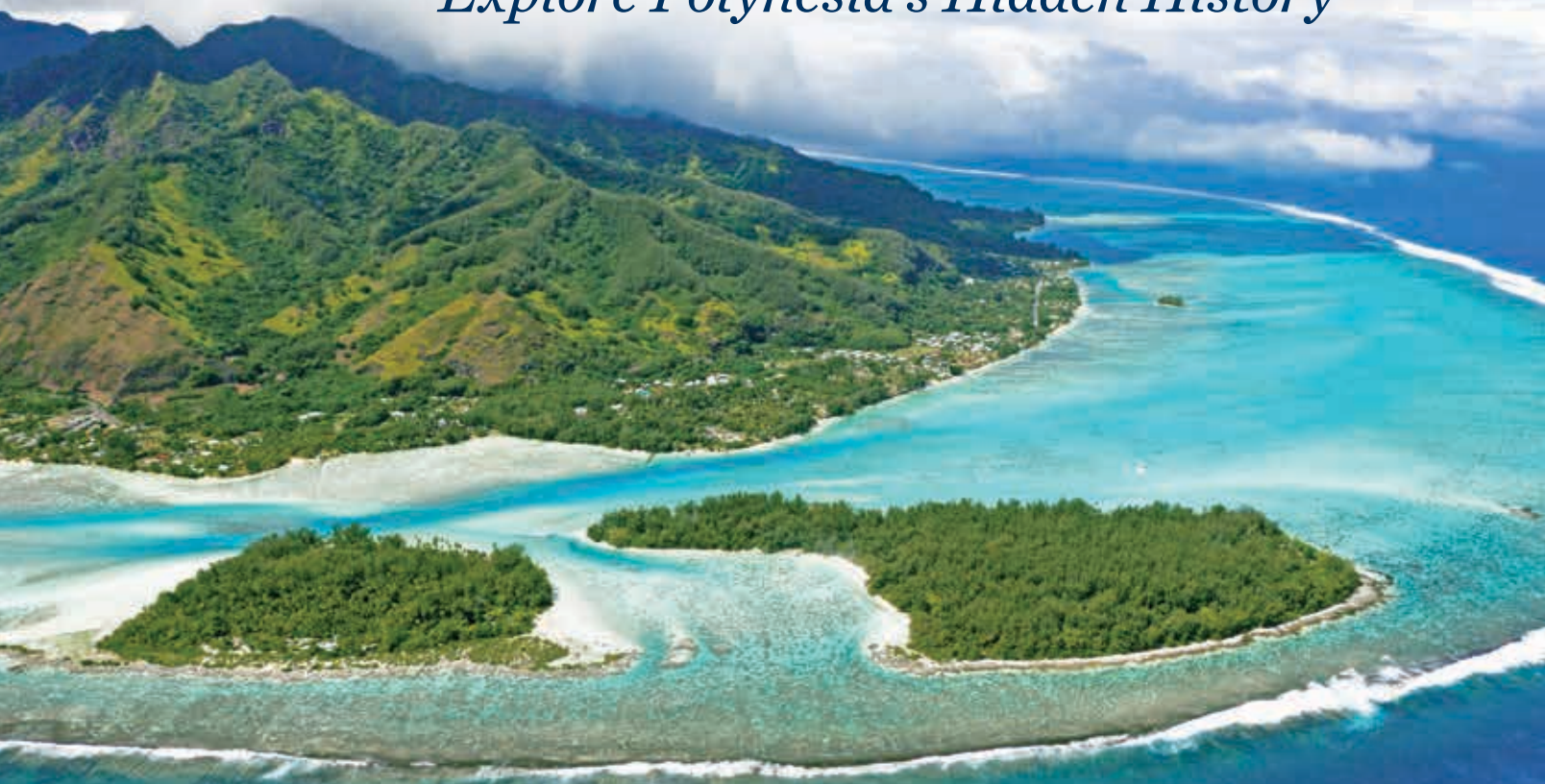


lands and waters. Our wellness program has also been developed to connect you more deeply with your oceanic surroundings, whether you choose to greet the day with a morning stretch on deck or unwind with a massage in the spa.



Blue Waters Run Deep

Explore Polynesia's Hidden History



*Christina Thompson knows that Polynesia's spectacular beauty is more than skin deep. Editor of Harvard Review and author of *Sea People: The Puzzle of Polynesia*, she is on a crusade to tell the awe-inspiring story of the explorers who braved the vast Pacific 1,000 years ago to discover its remote islands.*

*Thompson will share her trove of stories and expertise on an upcoming **Easter Island: Tales of the Pacific** expedition. We sat down with her to discuss what makes Polynesia more than a dreamy holiday backdrop.*

What are the advantages of seeing Polynesia by ship?

When visiting this region of the world, it is possible to fly into certain places, but there are many parts that are best accessed by water. Plus, you can really experience and comprehend the vast distances between islands when traveling by sea. I had the opportunity to travel with Lindblad Expeditions from the Marquesas to Hawaii. I felt wonder that people managed to cross these distances and find these

islands. Being able to traverse this region by boat illustrated that achievement in a way that flying could never do.

What inspired you to write *The Puzzle of Polynesia*?

When my father-in-law died some years ago, my husband—who is Māori and from New Zealand—went back home with our young son. I stayed in Honolulu, where we were living at the time, and thought about how my family was thousands of miles away. At the



same time, I knew that the people in Hawaii and New Zealand shared the same ancestry. The idea that they had gotten to these far-flung places became vivid to me and I thought, ‘Wow, what an amazing story. How did they do this?’

How do most people perceive Polynesia today and how do you wish to alter that perception?

People from outside Polynesia tend to see it as a honeymoon destination. But there’s little to no understanding of the islands’ history. Several thousand years ago, there were people living way up in the Andes and in the Himalayas, but there was nobody living out in the middle of the Pacific Ocean

for the simple reason that nobody knew how to get there. A population of people figured out how to do that. It’s an amazing story that I believe visitors to Polynesia should know.

What made ancient wayfinding so remarkable?

The navigator had to hold a very large amount of information in their head, because they weren’t working with maps or any other instruments. They had to hold information about star paths, weather patterns, wave patterns—all kinds of different things. I’ve always felt the most impressive part of the Polynesian wayfinding story is how people mastered and maintained knowledge in order to move throughout the world.



Watch Christina Thompson further describe the history of Polynesian wayfinding in the video, Heroic History: The Story of Polynesian Voyaging at expeditions.com/polynesianvoyagers.



Cultures of the South Pacific

Guided by the wind and stars, ancient peoples began sailing the South Pacific thousands of years ago in search of new lands—and with each island settled, unique customs and traditions took root and unfolded. Explore the rich cultural tapestry that emerged here as we sail between islands to meet residents who share their unique languages, beliefs, and rich traditions of song and dance.





Fijian men heat stones in preparation for a traditional fire-walking ceremony; in the Melanesian archipelago of Vanuatu, a sacred Rom dance is performed to encourage a bountiful harvest; donning ceremonial dress, residents of Nuku Hiva in the Marquesas perform a traditional dance; Hapatoni, Tahanea, the remotest of the inhabited Marquesas.

Choosing Your Ideal South Pacific Voyage

From witnessing fire-walking in Fiji to hiking through the Marquesan rainforest or snorkeling along the kaleidoscopic coral reefs of the Tuamotu Archipelago, each of our expeditions features experiences that reveal an otherworldly, seldom-seen side of Polynesia and the Pacific Isles. Read on to decide which trip is right for you.

Best for a Quick Polynesian Escape

Wild Polynesian Escape: Tahiti to Bora Bora | 7 Days

An action-packed expedition that introduces you to the best of the region, from Rangiroa's fish-filled "aquarium" to the Taputapuātea marae complex.





Best for Rich Undersea Exploration

[Pearls of the Pacific: Exploring the Society and Tuamotu Islands | 12 Days](#)

Our classic French Polynesian itinerary will have you diving into vibrant underwater realms in the Society and Tuamotu islands, exploring emerald gems like Bora Bora on foot, and much more.

[Ancient Polynesia: Tuamotu and Marquesas Islands | 12 Days](#)

Venture off Polynesia's beaten path and sail to wild isles that most cruise ships miss, including the remote Marquesas, with its ancient petroglyphs and rare bird species.

[Tahiti to Fiji: Reefs, Lagoons & Volcanic Isles | 17 Days](#)

Discover the Polynesian icons of Tahiti and Fiji and explore an array of remote islands in between. Enjoy spectacular snorkeling, a visit to a marae ceremonial site, and a dramatic fire-walking ceremony.

Best for Cultural & Historical Immersion

[Easter Island to Tahiti: Tales of the Pacific | 19 Days](#)

On a voyage to the farthest reaches of Oceania, sail between Easter Island and the Society Islands, tracing the legend of the ill-fated *H.M.S. Bounty* along the way.

[Under The Southern Cross: New Zealand to Melanesia | 18 Days](#)

On this epic journey across the South Pacific, delve into Māori and Melanesian culture and World War II history, snorkel colorful coral reefs, and hike atop the rim of a volcanic caldera.

[Rites and Relics: From the Solomon Islands to Fiji | 15 Days](#)

Embark on an in-depth exploration of Fiji and Vanuatu, voyaging from World War II battlegrounds and shipwreck dive sites to ancient spirit houses and vibrant island villages.

[Journey Across the Remote Pacific | 27 Days](#)

Sail to far-flung tropical isles on an epic voyage that hits South Pacific highlights and hidden gems, including isolated Polynesian cultures and magical underwater realms.





Otherworldly French Polynesia

Lush rainforests, magical grottos, and emerald cliffs that drop straight into dazzling turquoise waters: French Polynesia is a natural wonder. Each of our voyages here unlocks the secrets of this alluring island nation, offering a unique look at its rich cultural history and incredible kaleidoscope of land and sea life. Join us on a journey into the heart of a wild paradise.

Wild Polynesian Escape: Tahiti To Bora Bora



7 DAYS | FROM \$6,060

Scan QR code for itinerary details and current rates, or visit expeditions.com/shortpoly

Aboard *National Geographic Orion*

On an expedition to one of the last places on Earth to be settled by humans, dive and snorkel in clear, warm water with rays, sea turtles, sharks, and whales; see paradise come to life in the iconic landscapes of jagged green peaks, pristine beaches, and the bluest of blue waters; and connect with local culture with visits to Polynesia's most significant ancestral site and a family-run vanilla plantation. Between the storied islands of Tahiti and Bora Bora lies coveted diving destinations, steep volcanic cliffs, remarkable grottoes, and the ancient Polynesian cultural site of Marae Taputapuātea.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ See iconic Bora Bora's verdant Mount Otemanu, jutting 2,400 feet above turquoise waters, and Makatea's steep cliffs, which drop straight to deserted beaches.
- ▶ Dive and snorkel in crystalline waters: green sea turtles, black-tipped reef sharks, and enormous schools of fish.
- ▶ Swim into an otherworldly grotto, a hidden cave on Makatea, and float amongst its stalagmites and stalactites.
- ▶ Learn about Polynesian history and culture at sights including Marae Taputapuātea, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Mount Otemanu.

DAYS 1 & 2: U.S./PAPEETE, TAHITI, FRENCH POLYNESIA/EMBARK

Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Tahiti. Arrive in the early morning on Day 2 and proceed directly to *National Geographic Orion* for embarkation. While in port this morning, take some time to freshen up and settle into your cabin as we prepare to depart. Alternatively, choose to walk around downtown Papeete and visit the central market where vendors sell fresh fruit, pareos, art and coveted black pearls. Join us for lunch aboard and be on deck as we set sail from Tahiti toward the Tuamotu Archipelago. This afternoon, meet the staff and fellow travelers, and settle into island time. (Day 2: B,L,D)

DAY 3: RANGIROA

The atoll of Rangiroa is a ring of slender islands known for some of the best diving and snorkeling in French Polynesia. The turquoise lagoon at its center is the second-largest in the world. Kayak, snorkel, and scuba dive in the rich waters here, home to large schools of pelagic fish, manta rays, dolphins, and sea turtles. (B,L,D)

DAY 4: MAKATEA

An uplifted coral atoll, the island of Makatea is one of the most unique landforms in the Pacific. A makatea is a raised coral atoll that is tilted due to plate tectonics and appears much different than the other islands in the region, containing spectacular, vertical cliffs. This specific island of Makatea gives its name to all other uplifted coral atolls worldwide. Spend the

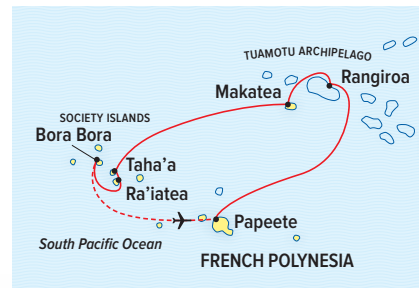


Fruit dove, Makatea.

day exploring the island's limestone caves and grottos with your expedition team and local guides, or search for endemic fruit doves and myriad seabirds. (B,L,D)

DAY 5: RA'IA TEA/TAHA'A

Encircled by a single fringing reef, and sharing a common lagoon, Ra'iatea and Taha'a are islands well worth exploring. One of the most important cultural sites in the Polynesian world, Marae Taputapuātea was a center for Polynesian seafarers and the location from which they set out for Rapa Nui (Easter Island), Hawai'i and New Zealand. Our afternoon is spent at Taha'a where we'll visit a family-run vanilla plantation and spend time snorkeling in the crystalline lagoons where we'll encounter black-tipped reef sharks. (B,L,D)



Local Taha'a woman.

DAYS 6 & 7: BORA BORA/DISEMBARK/PAPEETE/U.S.

Be on deck at sunrise this morning to take in one of the South Pacific's most iconic images: the angular crags of Bora Bora's Mount Otemanu. Spend the morning exploring Bora Bora and then join us for lunch aboard. In the afternoon, take a short flight back to Papeete where a hotel room will be available for you to rest and refresh before your international overnight flight home. (Day 6: B,L,D)

EXPEDITION DATES

2023 May 4, 9* 2024 Mar. 29; Apr. 3*, 8*
2025 Jan. 29; Feb. 3*

*These departures travel in reverse.

SPECIAL OFFERS

Book by Jan. 13, 2023:

- 2024 and 2025 departures at 2023 rates.
 - \$1,200 USD/pp air credit in 2023.
 - Waive the solo premium.
 - Save 10% on a group of 6 or more.
- Select departures only.



Rangiroa.

Pearls of the Pacific: Exploring The Society and Tuamotu Islands

New



12 DAYS | FROM \$12,110

Scan QR code for itinerary details and current rates, or visit expeditions.com/pearls

Aboard *National Geographic Orion*

From snorkeling with sea turtles and sharks to swimming into a hidden grotto and dining on a private motu, this South Pacific expedition is an adventure in paradise. Begin with bucket-list underwater explorations in the Tuamotu Archipelago and Fakarava, whose flora and fauna are so diverse that its breathtaking reefs and other habitats are protected by UNESCO. Makatea's sheer volcanic cliffs, Bora Bora's jagged Mount Otemanu, and the tall green peaks of Mo'orea create indelible memories and complement the underwater Gardens of Eden that surround these remarkable remote tropical islands.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Visit one of the most important cultural sites in the Polynesian world and a recently named UNESCO World Heritage site, Marae Taputapuātea.
- ▶ Snorkel or dive some of the healthiest reefs of the Pacific in the Tuamotu Archipelago.
- ▶ Swim into an otherworldly grotto, a hidden cave on Makatea, and float amongst its stalagmites and stalactites.
- ▶ Spend a day on the small island of Anaa and in its biodiverse lagoon meeting fishermen and skilled local artisans who craft jewelry from stones mined on the island, string elaborate shell necklaces, and weave cloth with island motifs.
- ▶ Enjoy special dining experiences, including a barbecue with live music on a private motu in Bora Bora and a lunch of Polynesian specialties at a beachside restaurant in Ra'iatea.

Kayaking at Tahanea Atoll, Tuamotus

DAYS 1 & 2: U.S./PAPEETE, TAHITI, FRENCH POLYNESIA/EMBARK

Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Tahiti. Arrive in the early morning on Day 2 and proceed directly to *National Geographic Orion* for embarkation. While in port this morning, take some time to freshen up and settle into your cabin as we prepare to depart. Alternatively, choose to walk around downtown Papeete and visit the central market where vendors sell fresh fruit, pareos, artwork, and coveted black pearls. Join us for lunch aboard and be on deck as we set sail from Tahiti toward the Tuamotu Archipelago. This afternoon, meet the expedition team and your fellow travelers, and settle into island time. (Day 2: B,L,D)

DAYS 3 & 4: TUAMOTU ARCHIPELAGO

Spend two days exploring some of the nearly 80 islands and atolls in the “Dangerous Archipelago,” a corner of Polynesia that is as rich with marine life as it is vast. With crystalline lagoons fringed by white beaches and lush coconut groves, the Tuamotus are a tropical dream, both in the water and ashore. Meet the locals on sparsely inhabited Anaa and learn of their unique traditions. Discover the abundant marine life on a snorkel or dive, or learn to stand up paddleboard in the calm lagoon of one of the many pristine atolls in the archipelago. (B,L,D)

DAYS 5 & 6: FAKARAVA

Today we arrive at Fakarava, one of the largest atolls in French Polynesia and part of a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. This coral atoll is home to many rare species of birds, plants, and crustaceans, and we have the opportunity to snorkel its protected reefs and ride the current into the lagoon on a world-famous drift dive. Spend time exploring Rotoava, the main village on Fakarava. Take a leisurely bike ride, visit a pearl shop, or stroll along the turquoise waterfront with a fresh coconut. (B,L,D)

DAY 7: MAKATEA

An uplifted coral atoll, the island of Makatea is one of the most unique landforms in the Pacific. A makatea is a raised coral atoll that is tilted due to plate tectonics and appears much different than the other islands in the region, containing spectacular, vertical cliffs. This specific island of Makatea gives its name to all other uplifted coral atolls worldwide. Spend the day exploring the island’s limestone caves

and grottos with your expedition team and local guides, or search for endemic fruit doves and myriad seabirds. (B,L,D)

DAY 8: TAHA'A/BORA BORA

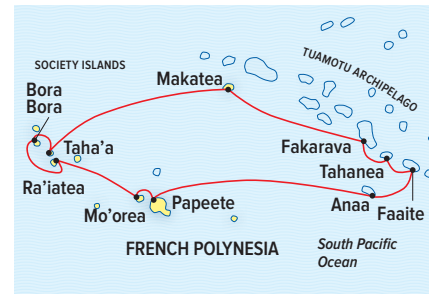
Arrive in picture-postcard Taha'a and spend the morning snorkeling alongside black-tipped reef sharks. Or, choose to go ashore and visit a family run vanilla farm. Enjoy lunch aboard as we sail to nearby Bora Bora and be on deck as the iconic crags of Mount Otemanu come into focus. This afternoon, explore Bora Bora either on land or in the water. Join us for a barbecue dinner and music on a private motu this evening. (B,L,D)

DAY 9: BORA BORA/RA'IAEA

Take in the sunrise on deck as we sail to Ra'iatea in the early morning light. Visit one of the most important cultural sites in the Polynesian world, Marae Taputapuātea. A center for Polynesian seafarers and the location from which they set out for Rapa Nui (Easter Island), Hawai'i and New Zealand, see the marae and learn of its significance in Polynesian history. Experience a scenic lagoon cruise around the island as we sail toward the village of Uturoa. Taste Polynesian specialties over lunch at a local beachside restaurant, and spend the afternoon swimming, snorkeling or stand up paddle boarding in Ra'iatea's calm lagoon waters. (B,L,D)

DAY 10: MO'OREA

Wake up to views of Mo'orea's tall, green cliffs as we anchor in stunning Opunohu Bay. Hike through a pineapple plantation, explore the island's interior on horseback, or choose to snorkel in the island's crystalline lagoon.



Have lunch on deck and take in views of the island as we cruise toward Cook's Bay where we'll spend the rest of the day. Visit Mo'orea's newest museum and enjoy the golden light of the late afternoon from ashore. (B,L,D)

DAYS 11 & 12: MO'OREA/PAPEETE/ DISEMBARK/U.S.

This morning, choose to stretch your legs with an early walk into Mo'orea's caldera interior or opt to discover marine life beneath the surface of the lagoon on a leisurely snorkel excursion. Join us onboard for lunch as we cast off for Tahiti. Later, disembark in Papeete and check into a hotel room for the afternoon. In the late evening, transfer to the airport for flights home. (Day 11: B,L,D)

EXPEDITION DATES

2023 Jun. 3 2024 Mar. 9; Mar. 19

2025 Feb. 28

SPECIAL OFFERS

Book by Jan. 13, 2023:

- 2024 and 2025 departures at 2023 rates.
- \$1,200 USD/pp air credit in 2023.
- Waive the solo premium.

Select departures only.



Snorkeling in the Grotto, Makatea.

Ancient Polynesia: Tuamotus and Marquesas Islands



12 DAYS | FROM \$12,110

Scan QR code for itinerary details and current rates, or visit expeditions.com/ancient

Aboard *National Geographic Orion*

On an expedition to some of the world's most remote islands, volcanic peaks rise dramatically from turquoise lagoons, 20 species of whales and dolphins thrive in protected waters, and welcoming villagers share their ancient cultural traditions. Begin in the renowned diving destination Rangiroa in the Tuamotu Archipelago where 16-foot manta rays, colorful butterfly fish, whales, and sea turtles flourish in pristine, nutrient-rich waters. Exploring the sparsely populated Marquesas Islands, encounter moss-covered giant tikis on Hiva Oa, thousand-year-old petroglyphs on Nuku Hiva, the wild horses of Ua Huka, and lush rainforests with rare birds and rushing waterfalls.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Dive and snorkel in clear, warm waters in an extraordinary undersea world of melon-headed whales, manta rays, green sea turtles, and vast schools of pelagic fish.
- ▶ Experience the world's largest Marine Mammal Sanctuary.
- ▶ Connect with island residents through a cultural dance performance at a me-ae (sacred site), sample local foods, and attend a church service.
- ▶ Appreciate the skilled artisanry of tapa (cloth made from tree bark), carvings in bone and rosewood, and oils and perfumes crafted from local natural sources like the tiare flower.
- ▶ On hikes and excursions in kayaks and Zodiacs, be on the lookout for birds, including endangered ultramarine lorikeet, zebra doves, nakins, and fairy terns.

Special Guest



Join **Richard Vevers**, founder and CEO of The Ocean Agency and star of the Emmy Award-winning Netflix documentary *Chasing Coral*, on the May 24 departure.

Learn more about staff and guest speakers at expeditions.com/guestspeakers



Fatu Hiva.

DAYS 1 & 2: U.S./PAPEETE, TAHITI, FRENCH POLYNESIA/EMBARK

Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Tahiti. Arrive in the early morning on Day 2 and proceed directly to *National Geographic Orion* for embarkation. While in port this morning, take some time to freshen up and settle into your cabin as we prepare to depart. Alternatively, choose to walk around downtown Papeete and visit the central market where vendors sell fresh fruit, pareos, artwork, and coveted black pearls. Join us for lunch aboard and be on deck as we set sail from Tahiti toward the Tuamotu Archipelago. This afternoon, meet the staff and fellow travelers and settle into island time. (Day 2: B,L,D)

DAY 3: RANGIROA, TUAMOTUS

Visit the Tuamotu Archipelago. The atoll of Rangiroa is a ring of slender islands known for some of the best diving and snorkeling in French Polynesia. The turquoise lagoon at its center is the second-largest in the world. Kayak, snorkel, and scuba dive in the rich waters here, home to large schools of pelagic fish, manta rays, dolphins, and sea turtles. (B,L,D)



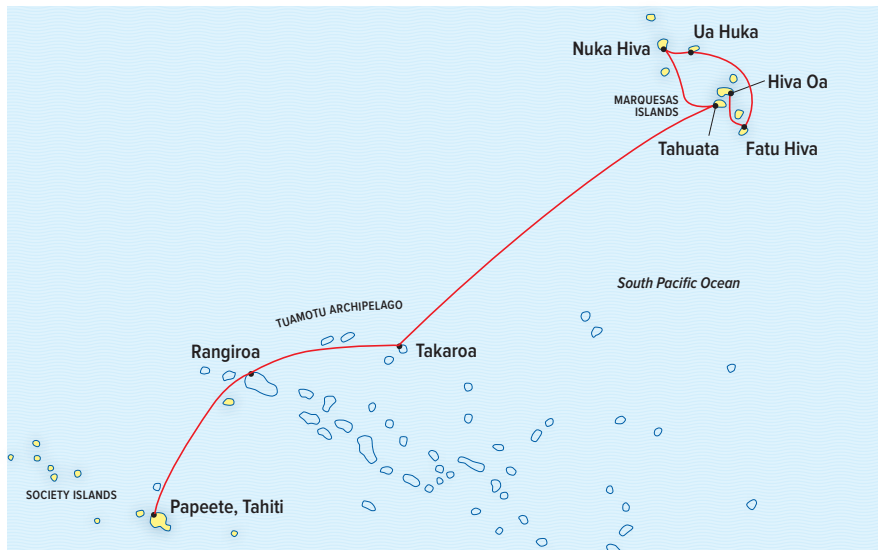
Colorful coral in the Tuamotus.

DAY 4: TAKAROA ATOLL

Experience Takaroa Atoll, a remote island nearly 350 miles from Tahiti. Visit the main village and snorkel or dive stunning healthy reefs. Kayak and stand-up paddleboard in its turquoise lagoons and walk pristine beaches beneath coconut palms. (B,L,D)

DAYS 5 & 6: AT SEA/TAHUATA, MARQUESAS

A relaxing day at sea brings us to one of the most remote island groups on Earth, the Marquesas Islands. Explore this archipelago on Tahuata, the smallest of the inhabited Marquesan Islands. Choose to attend a local church service with stunningly beautiful music, and spend some time exploring Vaitahu, the main village on the island. In the afternoon



we reposition to nearby Hapatoni Bay where both land and sea excursions await. (B,L,D)

DAY 7: NUKU HIVA

Start the day at Hatiheu Bay, on the north shore of Nuku Hiva Island. Visit ancient petroglyphs and witness a spectacular dance performance at a Marquesan me'ae, or hike up the valley with our naturalists and local guides in search of rare birds and spectacular views. Later, sample local foods in the village and peruse unique arts and crafts. (B,L,D)

DAY 8: UA HUKA

Today is open for exploration. Dive some of the incredible waters here and search for rare cetaceans with your naturalists. Marvel at the rugged volcanic silhouettes of these legendary islands from the Zodiacs and kayaks. (B,L,D)

DAY 9: FATU HIVA

Be on deck this morning to photograph the volcanic pillars of Hanavave Bay as *National Geographic Orion* approaches one of the most storied shorelines in the entire Pacific. Visit a remote village where you'll see displays of uniquely Marquesan arts and crafts. Choose a challenging hike to a remote waterfall, or take Zodiacs to the next bay where local transport takes you on a birdwatching foray deep into the Omo'a Valley. (B,L,D)

DAYS 10-12: HIVA OA/DISEMBARK/PAPEETE/U.S.

Set out exploring one of the Marquesas' remote, uninhabited islands. In the afternoon we arrive at

Hiva Oa where we'll visit the village of Puamau to explore a well-maintained Marquesan sacred site, a me'ae lipona. Accompanied by our team and knowledgeable local guides, we'll learn about religious rites and photograph one of the largest, most arresting ancient tikis in Polynesia. On our last morning, we'll visit the village of Atuona before disembarking the ship and flying by charter aircraft back to Papeete. This evening, transfer to the airport for flights home. (Days 10 & 11: B,L,D)

EXPEDITION DATES

2023 May 14, 24* 2025 Feb. 8, 18*

*These departures travel in reverse.

Note: We will visit every site on this itinerary, but actual routing may vary

SPECIAL OFFERS

Book by Jan. 13, 2023 to receive:

- 2025 departures at 2023 rates.
- \$1,200 USD/pp air credit in 2023.
- Waive the solo premium in 2023.

Select departures only



Me'ae l'ipona.

Easter Island to Tahiti: Tales of the Pacific



20 DAYS | FROM \$21,280

Scan QR code for itinerary details and current rates, or visit expeditions.com/talesofthepacific

Aboard *National Geographic Orion*

Sailing in the wake of early Polynesian navigators, this Tahiti expedition strikes to the farthest reaches of Oceania. From remote and enigmatic Easter Island to the historically significant Pitcairn Islands through the “low islands” of the Tuamotu Archipelago to Tahiti, you’ll visit islands that are virtually inaccessible and untouched. Experience one of the most isolated landfalls of Polynesia: Easter Island. See the legendary moai statues up close and hear the leading theories on what happened to the people who created them from top experts. Walk the length of untouched tropical beaches, meet the descendants of *H.M.S. Bounty* mutineers, and snorkel through an atoll pass.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

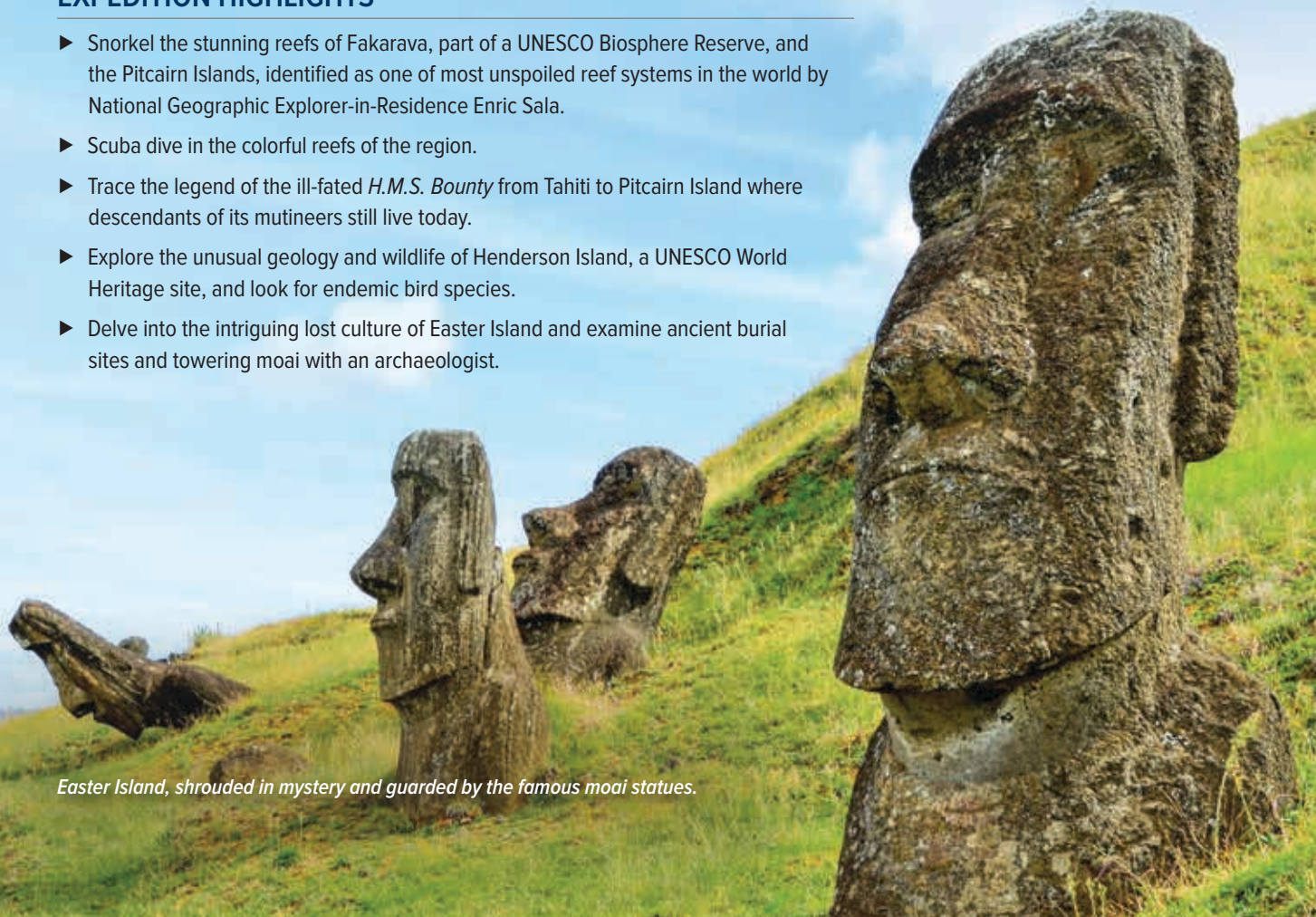
- ▶ Snorkel the stunning reefs of Fakarava, part of a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, and the Pitcairn Islands, identified as one of most unspoiled reef systems in the world by National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence Enric Sala.
- ▶ Scuba dive in the colorful reefs of the region.
- ▶ Trace the legend of the ill-fated *H.M.S. Bounty* from Tahiti to Pitcairn Island where descendants of its mutineers still live today.
- ▶ Explore the unusual geology and wildlife of Henderson Island, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and look for endemic bird species.
- ▶ Delve into the intriguing lost culture of Easter Island and examine ancient burial sites and towering moai with an archaeologist.

Special Guest



Join Christina Thompson, editor of the *Harvard Review* and author of *Sea People: The Puzzle of Polynesia*, on the April 5 departure.

Learn more about staff and guest speakers at expeditions.com/guestspeakers



Easter Island, shrouded in mystery and guarded by the famous moai statues.

DAY 1: U.S./PAPEETE, TAHITI, FRENCH POLYNESIA

Arrive in Tahiti and transfer to the InterContinental Tahiti Resort & Spa (or similar) in the afternoon for check in. Spend the evening at your leisure.

DAY 2: PAPEETE/EMBARK

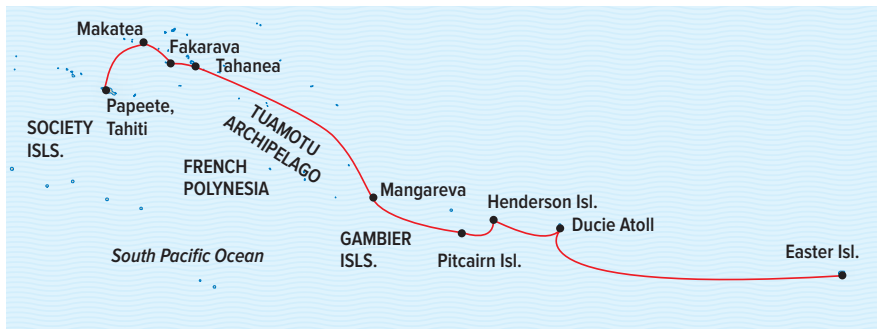
This morning, enjoy breakfast at your leisure and spend some time exploring the resort while adjusting to island time. Meet your fellow travelers for lunch and then join us for a tour of Tahiti before embarking the ship in the late afternoon. (B,L,D)

DAY 3: MAKATEA

An uplifted coral atoll, the island of Makatea is one of the most unique landforms in the Pacific. Spend the day exploring limestone caves and grottos with your expedition team and local guides, or search for endemic fruit doves and myriad seabirds, then snorkel among colorful fish on the nearby reef. (B,L,D)

DAYS 4-8: AT SEA/TUAMOTU ARCHIPELAGO

Today we begin our exploration of the “Dangerous Archipelago,” in Fakarava, one of the largest atolls in French Polynesia and part of a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Explore the protected reefs or ride the current into the lagoon on a world-famous drift snorkel. From here, your Captain and Expedition Leader will determine our next spot for exploration. In true expedition mode we will visit some of the Tuamotus’ most remote islands, taking the opportunity to explore them by land and by sea. Navigate reefs and islets as we make our way east and explore one of French



Polynesia’s many uninhabited atolls, such as Tahanea. (B,L,D)

DAY 9: MANGAREVA

Spend a day at sea scanning the horizon with our naturalists or relaxing on deck with a good book. We then arrive at Mangareva, the largest of the Gambier Islands, with its interesting history and beautiful lagoon. Venture underwater to snorkel, meet islanders to learn about their culture and the missionaries who made their home here, or go on a hike with our naturalists. (B,L,D)

DAYS 10-13: PITCAIRN ISLANDS/AT SEA

Explore the famed Pitcairn Island. Many of the mutineers of the legendary Bounty made their home here in the late 18th century, and about 50 of their descendants still live here today. Meet the residents and hear a few words of the unusual Pitkern dialect—a combination of English “sailor speak” and Polynesian phrases. Visit the gravesite of the last surviving Bounty mutineer, John Adams, and see the Bounty’s anchor, which was salvaged in 1957. We continue to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Henderson Island, an uplifted atoll that is uninhabited and virtually

untouched by humans. Discover the island’s four endemic bird species, rich flora and fauna, and fascinating geology. At Ducie Atoll, spend time spotting frigatebirds and boobies or snorkeling among spectacular reefs. (B,L,D)

DAYS 14 & 15: AT SEA

As we voyage east toward Easter Island, head up to the Bridge to watch for wildlife and observe expert navigation at work as our skilled Captain and officers sail these historic waters. There’ll also be time to enjoy a massage in the wellness center, work out in the gym, and browse in the library. Each day our naturalists offer talks that add depth to your experience. (B,L,D)

DAYS 16-20: EASTER ISLAND, CHILE/ DISEMBARK/SANTIAGO/U.S.

Arrive in Easter Island where you will disembark and check into the Nayara Hangaroa (or similar) for two nights. Explore volcanic calderas, jagged lava fields, and sweeping grasslands to discover the colossal moai statues, the astonishing legacy of a long-lost culture. Join archaeologists to examine these statues and discuss their meaning and creation; visit burial sites, quarries, and intricately carved ceremonial altars. Board our flight to Santiago, Chile and check into the Mandarin Oriental Santiago (or similar) for one night. The next day, take a tour of Santiago and transfer to the airport in the evening for flights home. (Days 16-17: B,L,D; Days 18-19: B,L)



EXPEDITION DATES

2023 Apr. 5, 16*

*This departure travels in reverse.

SPECIAL OFFER

Book by Jan. 13, 2023 to waive the solo premium on solo cabins on select departures.





Fiji and Beyond

In a part of the world lost to time and enveloped in lore, follow in the wake of ancient wayfinders to discover remote isles brimming with wonders. Venture into hand-carved houses and ancient caves, discover World War II shipwrecks amid colorful underwater worlds, and learn firsthand about the rich cultural tapestry woven across these far-flung tropical isles.

Tahiti to Fiji: Reefs, Lagoons & Volcanic Isles



17 DAYS | FROM \$15,610

Scan QR code for itinerary details and current rates, or visit expeditions.com/paradise

Aboard *National Geographic Orion*

The archipelagos of the South Pacific have defined our notion of “island paradise” since Robert Louis Stevenson told his tales and Paul Gauguin captured Polynesia in paint. As we sail from Tahiti’s lush volcanic crags to the sparkling white shores of Fiji, discover a fascinating geology and a stunning wealth of bird species and marine life. Dive or snorkel among underwater canyons and tunnels formed from lava. Meet island communities. And explore the vibrant reef systems of the extraordinary archipelagos of the South Pacific.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Visit the complex of Marae Taputapuātea, a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of the most important cultural sites in Polynesia.
- ▶ Snorkel, swim, or stand-up paddleboard in the clear, aqua lagoons and reefs of Samoa.
- ▶ Spot rare and colorful birds and flowers on Fiji’s spectacular “Garden Island,” Taveuni, and in the rainforests of Samoa.
- ▶ Visit remote island villages and discover rich cultural histories, including the tradition of fire-walking in Fiji.

National Geographic Photography Expert



Join National Geographic
Photography Expert **Susan**

Seubert on the March 22, 2023
and February 23, 2024, departures.

Cultural Expert



Join internationally acclaimed
traditional master navigator,

Tua Pittman, on the March 22,
2023, departure.

Tua’s efforts to adopt and promote the sailing arts of the ancients have been recognized throughout the Pacific. He is known throughout Polynesia, Melanesia, and Micronesia for his mentoring of young islanders in the traditional cultures and languages of their ancestors.

*Learn more about staff and guest speakers
at expeditions.com/guestspeakers*

*Raiatea, the “Sacred Island” that is home to one of
Polynesia’s most important cultural sites,
Marae Taputapuātea.*



DAYS 1 & 2: U.S./PAPEETE, TAHITI, FRENCH POLYNESIA/EMBARK

Depart on an overnight flight to Tahiti and arrive in the early morning on Day 2. Transfer to our hotel and check into a day room. Join us for lunch and an afternoon tour before embarking *National Geographic Orion*. (Day 2: B,L,D)

DAYS 3-5: TAHA'A/RA'IA TEA/AT SEA

Spend the day acclimating to island time at beautiful Taha'a. Surrounded by a sparkling turquoise lagoon, make use of our private motu choose to snorkel, swim, kayak or just enjoy your surroundings from the white sandy beach. One of the most important cultural sites in the Polynesian world, Marae Taputapuātea was a center for Polynesian seafarers and the location from which they set out for Rapa Nui (Easter Island), Hawai'i, and New Zealand. Spend the morning exploring this site on Ra'iatea, then refresh yourself with a swim in the island's lagoon. Spend time on deck during a day at sea, mesmerized by deep, seablue water while scanning the horizon for marine mammals and seabirds. (B,L,D)



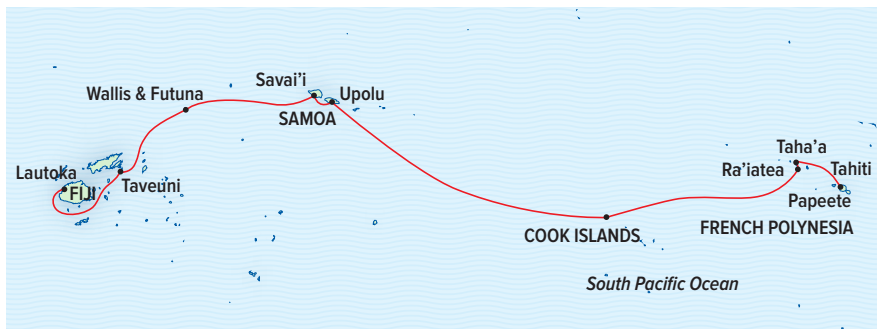
Snorkeling in the Cook Islands.

DAYS 6-8: COOK ISLANDS/AT SEA

Discover the pristine Cook Islands. Perhaps snorkel or dive among colorful coral, or choose to kayak or stand up paddleboard in the warm, crystal waters. Then enjoy life aboard *National Geographic Orion* as we spend two days sailing west toward Samoa. (B,L,D)

DAYS 9 & 10: SAMOA

With its spectacular beaches and dense green foliage, hidden waterfalls and lava-sculpted landscapes, Samoa captures the essence of the South Pacific. During our time on these islands, hike through rain forests vibrant with flowers and birds, take a dip in a swimming



hole, go snorkeling or diving, and soak up the languid rhythms of island life that drew Robert Louis Stevenson to these shores. (B,L,D)

DAYS 11 & 12: WALLIS AND FUTUNA

Another of France's South Pacific territories, the tiny island nation of Wallis and Futuna lies between Samoa and Fiji. In Wallis, we are greeted with local dancing and singing. Visit the beautiful crater lake Lalolalo and a cathedral built of blue volcanic stone, chiseled by hand. In Futuna, stop at a historic "cannibal oven" and learn of the history of these fascinating people, before a warrior dance performance in front of the Cathedral of Poi. (B,L,D)

DAYS 13-15: FIJI

Enter the island nation of Fiji with a stop at Taveuni, Fiji's third largest island, known as "The Garden Island" for its rich vegetation—which includes several species found nowhere else in the world. Experience warm Fijian welcomes at the village of Waitabu, and snorkel in one of the Pacific's most successful

community marine parks. Explore the waterfalls of nearby Bouma National Heritage Park and dive nearby reefs. Witness a dramatic firewalking ceremony at Beqa Island. (B,L,D)

DAY 16: LAUTOKA/DISEMBARK/U.S.

Disembark in Lautoka this morning. Take a tour of western Viti Levu Island, then transfer to the international airport at Nadi for flights home or choose to extend your stay and check in to our hotel. (B,L)

EXPEDITION DATES

2023 Mar. 22*, Jun. 13 2024 Feb. 23, Apr. 13*
2025 Jan. 15

*These departures travel in reverse.

SPECIAL OFFERS

Book by Jan. 13, 2023:

- 2024 and 2025 departures at 2023 rates.
- \$1,500 USD/pp air credit in 2023.
- Waive the solo premium.

Select departures only



Waterfall, Taveuni Island.

Rites & Relics: From the Solomon Islands to Fiji



15 DAYS | from \$13,380

Scan QR code for itinerary details and current rates, or visit expeditions.com/rites

Aboard *National Geographic Orion*

Explore through the heart of Melanesia to the western edge of Polynesia, from the Solomon Islands to Fiji. Receive warm welcomes in the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu; you'll be greeted with traditional dances as you land by Zodiac on remote and verdant shores, while a warm smile and *Bula!* greet you on arrival in Fiji. Search for endemic bird species, snorkel and dive stunning reefs and wrecks, and soak up the tranquil beauty of palm-fringed beaches.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Arrive to Owaraha in the Solomon Islands for a series of traditional dances and music, then walk to see the island's traditional spirit houses.
- ▶ Take a local canoe ride up the crystal-clear Riri River to the spectacular Riri Blue Hole grotto on Vanuatu's Espiritu Santo Island.
- ▶ Visit mysterious Ambrym Island in Vanuatu—known as a place of magic and spirits—and witness the traditional Rom dance.
- ▶ Visit the traditional island of the Fijian firewalkers in Beqa.
- ▶ Spot rare and colorful birds and flowers on Fiji's spectacular "Garden Island," Taveuni, and the lovely and less-visited Kadavu.

Special Guest



Join Ian W. Toll, independent scholar and the author of several highly-regarded works of military history, on the March 10, 2023 departure.

Learn more about staff and guest speakers at expeditions.com/guestspeakers

Lava beach, Tanna.



DAYS 1-3: U.S./BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

Depart the U.S. and arrive in Brisbane on Day 3 where we check into our hotel. Join us for a welcome briefing this evening to meet your fellow travelers. (Day 3: D)

DAY 4: BRISBANE/HONIARA, SOLOMON ISLANDS/EMBARK

Fly to Honiara, a former U.S. supply depot and a strategic WWII battleground. Tour around the outskirts of the city to see sites well known from the Battle of Guadalcanal in 1942-43. See the shores of Red Beach and the vital airbase at Henderson Field. Visit the hills above Honiara where some of the fiercest battles took places. Then, embark *National Geographic Orion* in the late afternoon. (B,L,D)

DAY 5: OWARAHA ISLAND

On the tiny isle of Owaraha (formerly known as Santa Ana), experience a traditional dance performed by villagers in costumes, body paint, and masks. Later, visit Nafinotoga to see Spirit Houses containing the skulls and bones of ancient chiefs of the Snake and Turtle Clan. (B,L,D)

DAY 6: AT SEA

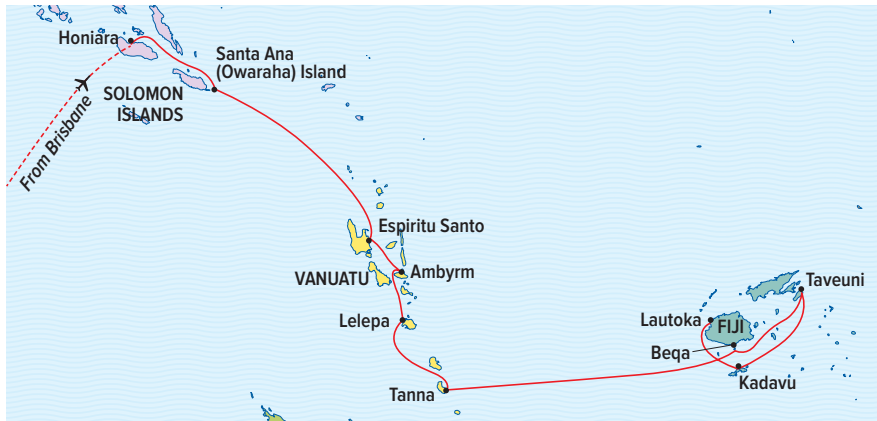
Take advantage of a full day at sea to settle into the relaxed pace of life on board. Watch for marine life from the deck, study our route on the navigational charts, and attend talks by our experts. (B,L,D)

DAY 7: ESPIRITU SANTO, VANUATU

Captain James Cook named the islands of Vanuatu the “New Hebrides” because they reminded him of the rugged isles off Scotland’s coast. On the island of Espiritu Santo, experience an incredible wreck dive: the *S.S. President Coolidge*, a luxury cruise liner used as a troop carrier during World War II. Alternatively, enjoy a serene canoe paddle to the Riri Blue Hole, a jewel-blue freshwater source surrounded by jungle. (B,L,D)

DAY 8: AMBRYM

Ambrym is known for its active volcanoes, black sand beaches, and mystery and magic. Arrive ashore to witness the striking Rom dance, traditionally a secret event. Involving incredible masks and elaborate outfits that represent spirits, this is a cultural experience specific only to this island. (B,L,D)



DAY 9: LELEPA, VANUATU

Ride Zodiacs to Lelepa to visit Vanuatu’s first and only UNESCO World Heritage site, the final residence and burial site of 17th-century Chief Roi Mata. Here, we’ll be welcomed with traditional songs and dance, and enter the impressive Fels Cave. (B,L,D)

DAY 10: TANNA

On Tanna Island, visit the friendly community in Port Resolution in the shadow of Mt. Yasur. Experience some of the local traditions and dances, as well as locally made handicrafts. Sample the strong, local kava made for special celebrations. (B,L,D)

DAY 11: AT SEA

Relax on deck as we make our passage from Vanuatu to Fiji or attend talks by our expert expedition and photo teams. (B,L,D)

DAY 12: BEQA, FIJI

More than 300 islands make up the remote volcanic archipelago of Fiji and we will be exploring here for three days. After entering the large lagoon of Beqa, come ashore at the lovely Lawaki Beach Resort, a rustic and beautiful place to spend the day. Take a boat ride and hike through across the island to a local village. Taste local fruits and snorkel off the beach in the beautiful Beqa Lagoon. Beqa is considered the traditional “home” of the Fijian firewalker. Witness this dramatic ceremony and the incredible strength and discipline required to perform it. (B,L,D)

DAY 13: TAVEUNI

Taveuni, Fiji’s third largest island, is known as “The Garden Island” for its rich vegetation— which includes several species found nowhere

else in the world. Discover the waterfalls of Bouma National Heritage Park and search for species such as orange fruit doves, endemic silktails, fantails, and parrots. Visit the village of Waitabu to meet the local people, taste locally harvested fruits and prepared baked goods, and to see a dance performance by some of the local, talented children. (B,L,D)

DAY 14: KADAVU

Join the ship’s naturalists for a beautiful scenic hike to see some of the incredible vistas and the rich variety of bird life. Explore the lovely village of Dravuni, or snorkel and dive in the refreshing Fijian water, rich in marine life. Enjoy a quiet exploration of the lagoon by stand-up paddleboard or kayak. (B,L,D)

DAY 15: LAUTOKA, VITI LEVU/ DISEMBARK/U.S.

Disembark in Lautoka this morning. Take a tour of western Viti Levu Island then transfer to the airport at Nadi for flights home or choose to extend your stay and check in to our hotel. (B,L)

EXPEDITION DATES

2023 Mar. 10 2024 Feb. 11 , Apr. 28*
2025 Jan. 3

*This departure travels in reverse.

SPECIAL OFFERS

- Book by Jan. 13, 2023:
 - 2024 and 2025 departures at 2023 rates.
 - \$1,200 USD/pp air credit in 2023.
 - Waive the solo premium.
- Select departures only.

Under the Southern Cross: New Zealand to Melanesia



18 DAYS | from \$15,160

Scan QR code for itinerary details and current rates, or visit expeditions.com/southerncross

Aboard *National Geographic Orion*

Following in the wake of Captain Cook, journey from New Zealand's North Island to the Solomon Sea. Delve into a fascinating history of intrepid explorers, convicts, and traders, and learn about the rich cultures of the Māori and the Melanesians. Examine traditional carved houses and ancient caves and meet villagers on the some of the most remote islands of the South Pacific. Along the way, don your snorkel and fins to discover incredible coral reefs and lagoons.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Encounter an impressive diversity of cultures from the Māori of the Bay of Islands to the spear dancers of the Solomons, and delve into their artistic and spiritual traditions.
- ▶ Venture to the former penal colony of Norfolk Island, now a UNESCO World Heritage site boasting unusual trees called Norfolk Island pines.
- ▶ See the stunning limestone geology of New Caledonia at Isle of Pines and visit a cave filled with primitive tree ferns.
- ▶ Visit important World War II sites, including the wreck of the *S.S. President Coolidge* and the Battle of Guadalcanal.
- ▶ See the fantastic fishing canoes of the people of Utupua and take a Zodiac ride along their mangrove-studded lagoon.



Guest Expert



Join **Dan Myers**, Senior Director of Public Affairs for Pristine Seas, on the February 25, 2023 departure.

The mission of the Pristine Seas project is to explore and protect vital places in the ocean, conducting scientific expeditions and working with world leaders to inspire the creation of various marine reserves.

Learn more about staff and guest speakers at expeditions.com/guestspeakers

Bay of Islands, New Zealand.



DAYS 1-3: U.S./AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

Relax this afternoon before a welcome briefing in the evening to meet your fellow travelers. (Day 3: L,D)

DAY 4: AUCKLAND/EMBARK

Have breakfast at the hotel before joining a tour of this vibrant city center. We'll stop for lunch midday before embarking *National Geographic Orion* in the late afternoon. (B,L,D)

DAY 5: BAY OF ISLANDS

The Bay of Islands, encompassing more than 140 subtropical islands, boasts an abundance of wildlife and fascinating history. Visit the Waitangi Treaty Grounds, a place of immeasurable cultural, spiritual, and historical significance. (B,L,D)

DAY 6: AT SEA

Take advantage of a full day at sea to settle into the relaxed pace of life on board. Watch for marine life from the deck, study our route on the navigational charts, and attend talks by our experts. (B,L,D)

DAY 7: NORFOLK ISLAND, AUSTRALIA

Explore Norfolk Island, covered in dense forests of pines. Initially valued as a ready source of shipbuilding lumber, it later became a British penal colony and then a settlement for Pitcairn Islanders—descendants of the mutineers from the famous *HMS Bounty*. See the ruins of the prison and the main settlement at Burnt Pine. Hike Norfolk National Park to look for endemic tree ferns and land birds. (B,L,D)

DAY 8: AT SEA

Relax on deck as we make our passage to Melanesia or attend talks by our expert expedition and photo teams. (B,L,D)

DAY 9: ISLE OF PINES, NEW CALEDONIA

Swim or snorkel in the beautiful Oro Natural Pool or walk through a beautiful rainforest to the site of Queen Hortense's Cave, filled with limestone features and a variety of tropical vegetation. Alternatively, take a hike to the summit of N'Ga Peak to see incredible views over the island and the surrounding sea or join our naturalists for a birding walk through the dense canopy of the forest. (B,L,D)

DAY 10: PORT VILA/LELEPA, VANUATU

Clear into Vanuatu at Port Vila. Later, go ashore at Lelepa to visit Vanuatu's first and only UNESCO

World Heritage site, the final residence and burial site of 17th-century Chief Roi Mata. Here, we'll be welcomed with traditional songs and dance, and enter the impressive Fels Cave. (B,L,D)

DAY 11: AMBRYM

Ambrym is known for its active volcanoes, blacksand beaches, and mystery and magic. Arrive ashore to witness the striking Rom dance, traditionally a secret event. Involving incredible masks and elaborate outfits that represent spirits, this is a cultural experience specific only to this island. (B,L,D)

DAY 12: ESPIRITU SANTO

On the island of Espiritu Santo, experience an incredible wreck dive: the *S.S. President Coolidge*, a luxury cruise liner used as a troop carrier during World War II. (B,L,D)

DAY 13: LOH ISLAND, TORRES GROUP

Arrive to the small village of Loh Island by Zodiac, meandering along a beautiful mangrove lagoon. Meet the lovely villagers and experience some of the local kastom dances. Hike across the island to a cave and look for wildlife along the way. If conditions permit, snorkel in along the beautiful fringing reef of the island. (B,L,D)

DAY 14: TIKOPIA, SOLOMON ISLANDS

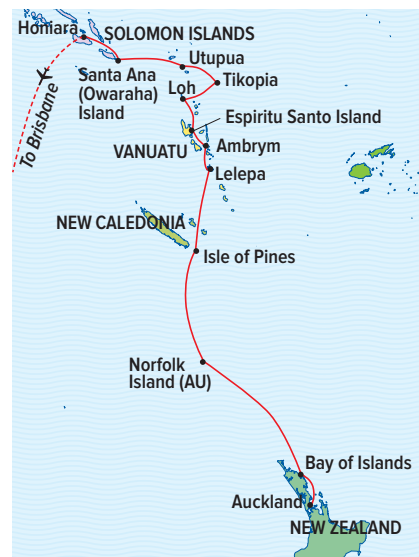
Tikopia, an unusual island just under 2 square miles, is the caldera of an extinct volcano and boasts dramatic scenery. Officially a part of the Solomon Islands of Melanesia, it was settled by Polynesians, whose descendants still reside there today. Made up of several villages led by different chiefs, the island retains many of its traditional practices. Meet local villagers and learn about the unique culture of the island. Later, hike along the ridgeline of the caldera to see an aerial view of the island and its lagoon. (B,L,D)

DAY 15: UTUPUA

Located in the Santa Cruz Island group, Utupua is a high volcanic island surrounded by a lagoon and a fringing coral reef. Zodiac to the village of Nimbau for a welcome song and dance performance. Walk through the village with the locals and witness their fantastic fishing canoes. Zodiac along the shores, lined with dense mangroves and boasting a variety of wildlife. (B,L,D)

DAY 16: OWARAHA ISLAND

On the tiny isle of Owaraha (formerly known



as Santa Ana), experience a traditional dance performed by villagers in costumes, body paint, and masks. Later, visit Nafinotoga to see Spirit Houses containing the skulls and bones of ancient chiefs of the Snake and Turtle Clan. (B,L,D)

DAY 17: HONIARA/DISEMBARK/ BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

Our expedition concludes in Honiara, a former U.S. supply depot and a strategic WWII battleground. Tour around the outskirts of the city to see sites well known from the Battle of Guadalcanal in 1942–43. See the shores of Red Beach and the vital airbase at Henderson Field. Visit the hills above Honiara, where some of the fiercest battles took place. Then transfer to the airport for our flight to Brisbane, where we will overnight at a local hotel. (B,L)

DAY 18: DEPART BRISBANE/U.S.

Depart this morning for your flight home, arriving the same day. (B)

EXPEDITION DATES

2022 Dec. 14* 2023 Feb. 25; Oct. 24*
2024 Jan. 29

*These departures travel in reverse.

SPECIAL OFFERS

- Book by Jan. 13, 2023:
 - 2024 departures at 2023 rates.
 - 4th guest travels free in 2022.
 - \$1,200 USD/pp air credit.
 - Waive the solo premium.
- Select departures only.

Journey Across the Remote Pacific

New



27 DAYS | FROM \$34,640

Scan QR code for itinerary details and current rates, or visit expeditions.com/remotepacific

Aboard *National Geographic Resolution*

Travel to some of the most far-flung tropical islands in the world, plying the Pacific from the archipelago of Palau to the idyllic shores of Tahiti. Among the wispy atolls of Chuuk and Kiribati, trace the history of war in paradise, exploring the battle sites and shipwrecks of World War II. Encounter a range of remarkable cultures, including the Chamorros of Guam and the handful of residents descended from the first English settler of Palmerston Island. Enjoy leisurely days on turquoise seas and immerse yourself in a dazzling marine world while snorkeling and kayaking among pristine reefs.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Explore secluded beaches, lagoons, and coral reefs of remote atolls alive with unusual endemic flora and fauna like tiny whistling green pigeons and rare mangroves.
- ▶ Discover unique isolated island cultures: Guam's Chamorro melting pot and Tokelau's Polynesian heritage. Visit beautiful UNESCO sites, like Marae Taputapuātea and Pohnpei's Nan Madol ruins.
- ▶ Walk in the footsteps of brave soldiers and dive among shipwrecks at historic World War II sites in the Chuuk State and Butaritari Atoll.
- ▶ Experience the energy and diversity of Tarawa, where half of Kiribati's population resides, and Papeete, the meeting point of cultures from surrounding archipelagos.
- ▶ Visit Pohnpei, a tropical Micronesian paradise with mangrove forests and stunning undersea life.

National Geographic Photography Expert



Join acclaimed documentary photographer, Chris Rainier, on the Oct. 11, 2023, departure.

Rainier specializes in highlighting endangered cultures and traditional languages. For the past 20 years he has been leading photographic expeditions for National Geographic around the globe.

Nan Madol in Pohnpei, Micronesia.

DAYS 1-3: U.S./PALAU/EMBARK

Depart on an overnight flight, crossing the International Date Line. Arrive in Palau on Day 2 and check into a room at our group hotel. Join your fellow travelers for a welcome briefing in the evening. On Day 3, join us on an island tour before embarking *National Geographic Resolution* in the late afternoon. (Day 3: B,L,D)

DAY 4: PALAU

One of the richest marine ecosystems on the planet, the Pacific archipelago of Palau is home to an aquatic wonderland of more than 1,300 species of fish and some 700 species of corals. Discover Palau's dazzling undersea world or choose an adventure on land. (B,L,D)

DAYS 5 & 6: AT SEA

As we set a course for Guam, settle into life aboard the ship. Enjoy discussions with our naturalists about the wonders that await and spend time on deck, scanning the horizon for seabirds and whales. (B,L,D)

DAY 7: GUAM, U.S.

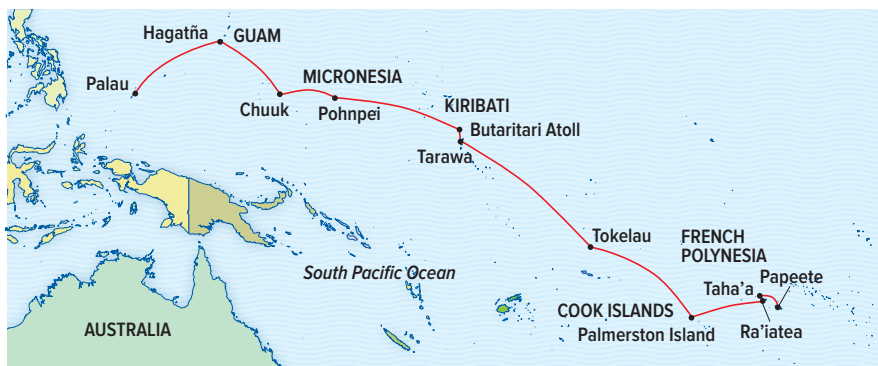
Visit Guam, the largest of the Mariana Islands. With a dynamic mix of cultures, and over 4,000 years of intriguing history, this isolated landmass has much to discover. Explore Guam's beaches and familiarize yourself with the island's unique Chamorro culture, a melting pot of American, European, Asian, Spanish, and Micronesian heritage. (B,L,D)

DAYS 8 & 9: AT SEA

Traverse 550 nautical miles en route to Micronesia. Enjoy leisure time and attend expert-led talks about the history of Pacific wayfinding and navigation, as well as the flora, fauna, and geology of the islands we will visit. Join our naturalists on deck to identify the seabirds that follow us as we sail east. (B,L,D)

DAYS 10-14: CHUUK & POHNPEI, MICRONESIA/AT SEA

The vast selection of WWII artifacts still found in the Chuuk State after five decades are a testament to the unique history of the Micronesian Islands—visible propellers, torpedoes, cave networks, planes and ships abound. See the waterside monument to those who died in the massive American air attack of 1944. Snorkel among Chuuk's renowned WWII shipwrecks, now blooming



with corals. Spot wildlife on rain forest walks, past waterfalls and deserted beaches, and experience the traditions of the islands, largely unchanged over the centuries. Then, spend a day at sea en route to Pohnpei—a tropical Micronesian paradise. Explore the island's mysterious Nan Madol ruins—UNESCO-recognized marvels that have puzzled historians and archaeologists for decades. Discover Pohnpei's pristine mangrove forests and stunning undersea life as we traverse the island before continuing east toward Kiribati. (B,L,D)

DAYS 15 & 16: KIRIBATI

Explore Butaritari Atoll, an isolated island first discovered in the early 1600s. Home to resident traders during the 19th and early 20th centuries, the island was also the site of several foreign occupations during WWII. Experience the island's unique history and discover four different species of mangrove that only grow here. Visit Tarawa, the capital of Kiribati and one of the most populous locations in the otherwise isolated Western Pacific. Explore the island's cultural and colonial history, as well as its role in WWII. (B,L,D)

DAYS 17-21: AT SEA/TOKELAU, NEW ZEALAND

Choose from an array of shipboard activities as we sail toward Tokelau. Attend a photo workshop with a National Geographic photography expert, enjoy a massage or a wellness class, or compete in a Geo Bee. After three days at sea, arrive at Tokelau, one of the most inaccessible places on earth. Learn of the islanders' strong Polynesian culture, and discover the undersea by snorkel. (B,L,D)

DAY 22: COOK ISLANDS

Discover the pristine Cook Islands. Perhaps snorkel among colorful coral, or choose to

kayak or stand-up paddleboard in the warm, crystal waters. Conditions permitting, visit Palmerston Island, home to fascinating locals, many of whom are descendants of the island's original settlers. (B,L,D)

DAYS 23 & 24: AT SEA

Enjoy the rhythms of shipboard life as we continue our course east. Soak up the views from one of the infinity-style hot tubs or saunas; enjoy a stretching session in the glass-walled yoga studio; and attend engaging presentations on a range of subjects, from ancient Polynesian navigators to talks from our photography team. (B,L,D)

DAY 25: RA'IA TEA & TAHA'A, FRENCH POLYNESIA

Encircled by a single fringing reef, and sharing a common lagoon, Ra'iatea and Taha'a are islands well worth exploring. One of the most important cultural sites in the Polynesian world, Marae Taputapuātea was a center for Polynesian seafarers and the location from which they set out for Rapa Nui (Easter Island), Hawai'i and New Zealand. Watch from on deck as we navigate lagoon channels en route to Taha'a, then go ashore at our private motu and explore both above and under water. (B,L,D)

DAYS 26 & 27: PAPEETE, TAHITI/ DISEMBARK/U.S.

Arrive in Papeete and take a tour of Tahiti before your overnight flight home. (Day 26: B,L)

EXPEDITION DATES

2023 Oct. 12

SPECIAL OFFER

Book by Jan. 13, 2023 to receive \$1,200 USD/pp air credit.

Extend Your Journey



Mo'orea Extension

3 DAYS | FROM \$1,950 PER PERSON

On the isle of Mo'orea, volcanic peaks rise from sapphire seas in an explosion of emerald-green splendor, creating an arresting backdrop for a French Polynesian escape. Settle into your overwater bungalow at the Hilton Mo'orea Lagoon Resort & Spa and enjoy a selection of activities with a complimentary \$150 resort credit. Kayak, snorkel, and paddleboard among pristine coral reefs, unwind on white-sand beaches, and explore dense tropical forest where bright hibiscus blooms and rare birds roost.

This extension can be added to select departures of *Easter Island to Tahiti: Tales of the Pacific*; *Ancient Polynesia: Tuamotus and Marquesas Islands*; *Tahiti to Fiji: Reefs, Lagoons and Volcanic Isles*; or *Journey Across the Remote Pacific* expeditions.

Visit expeditions.com/moorea-ext





Bora Bora Extension

3 DAYS | FROM \$3,960 PER PERSON

Transport yourself to one of Bora Bora's tranquil and picturesque outer motus and fall into island time at the Conrad Bora Bora Nui. Check into a stunning overwater bungalow, surrounded by turquoise waters and lush tropical gardens, and explore as much (or as little) as you choose during this three-night stay. Discover the resort's pristine beaches, browse the treatment menu in the resort's renowned spa, or luxuriate in the comfort of your own private bungalow, all while taking in the incredible views of Bora Bora's Mount Otemanu.

This extension can be added to our *Wild Polynesian Escape: Tahiti to Bora Bora* expedition.

Visit expeditions.com/borabora-ext



The Brando

Extend your Polynesian adventure with a visit to The Brando. Idyllically sited on the atoll of Tetiaroa and built on land Marlon Brando purchased in the 1960s, the lodge is accessible by a 20-minute private plane ride from Tahiti. Featuring one- to three bedroom private villas, set among palm trees and each with its own plunge pool, it is an exceptional way to start or cap off any of our South Pacific itineraries.

Visit expeditions.com/brando





National Geographic Orion

CAPACITY: 102 guests in 53 outside cabins.

REGISTRY: Bahamas. **OVERALL LENGTH:** 338 feet.

The gracious and intimate *National Geographic Orion* takes travelers to little-known waters and isles in the South Pacific, Australia, and Indonesia to experience each location's natural and cultural wonders up close.

PUBLIC AREAS: Outdoor café, lounge with bar and state-of-the-art facilities, restaurant, sundeck, reception desk, observation lounge and library, global gallery, and marina platform. The whirlpool hot tub doubles as a plunge pool in warm climates. Our "open Bridge" allows guests to meet our captain and officers and learn about navigation.

MEALS: All meals are served in a single seating with unassigned tables for an informal atmosphere and easy mingling. The cuisine is international with local flair, featuring tastes of the regions we explore.

CABINS: All cabins feature ocean views, private facilities, climate controls, and a flat-screen TV. Equipped with Ethernet and Wi-Fi connections and USB ports for mobile devices. Some cabins have French balconies. Single cabins in Category 1 and Category 3 include #301, 322, 323, and 512.

EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT: Zodiacs, a fleet of 24 double kayaks, a crow's nest camera, a hydrophone, underwater video cameras, video microscope, a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV), and OM System Photo Gear Locker. Plus, for South Pacific voyages, there is snorkeling gear for all guests, scuba gear for a number of pre-qualified guests, stand-up paddleboards, glass-bottom Zodiac, and splash-cam.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Laundry, a full-time doctor, National Geographic photography expert and Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic certified photo instructor, plus an undersea specialist. On all South Pacific voyages, there are a minimum of two dive masters.

WELLNESS: A wellness specialist, fitness center, LEXspa treatment room and sauna are on board.



From top: Dining excellence and regional flavors are a hallmark of our expeditions; Observation lounge and library.



Clockwise from left: Main lounge and bar; Category 5 suite with French balcony; Category 2 cabin.

CATEGORY 1: Main Deck #316, 318, 319-321 Cabins face outside with an oval window.

CATEGORY 2: Main Deck #302-312, 314, 315, 317 Cabins face outside with an oval window.

CATEGORY 3: Upper Deck—#401-412, 414-419 Suites face outside with a large window and feature a sofa or armchair.

CATEGORY 4: Bridge Deck—#511, 515 Suites face outside with a large window and feature a separate seating area.

CATEGORY 5: Bridge Deck—#501, 503-506, 508 Suites face outside with a shared French balcony and feature a separate seating area.

CATEGORY 6: Bridge Deck—#502, 507, 509*, 510 Owner's suites face outside with a French balcony and feature a separate seating area

*Cabin 509 has two windows in lieu of a French balcony.

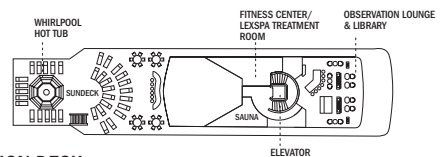
CATEGORY 1 SOLO: Main Deck #301, 322, 323 Cabins face outside with an oval window or two portholes.

CATEGORY 3 SOLO: Bridge Deck—#512 Suite faces outside with two large windows and features two armchairs.

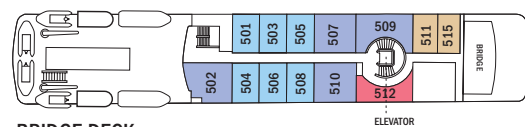
NOTE: Solo occupancy cabins available in Categories 1 and 3. Shared accommodations available in Categories 1 and 2.

NOTE: Third person rates available at one-half the double occupancy rate in designated triple occupancy cabins.

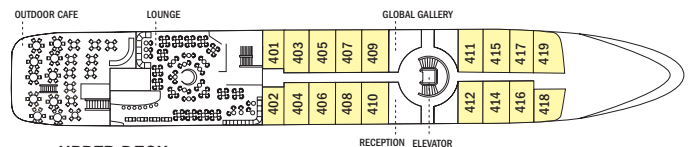
SEE MORE ONLINE: Learn more about *National Geographic Orion* at expeditions.com/orion



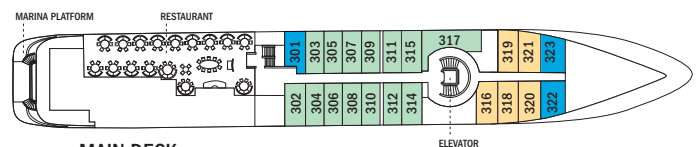
OBSERVATION DECK



BRIDGE DECK



UPPER DECK



MAIN DECK



EXPEDITION DECK



National Geographic Resolution

CAPACITY: 126 guests in 69 outside cabins.

REGISTRY: Bahamas. **OVERALL LENGTH:** 406 feet.

National Geographic Resolution is a next-generation expedition ship, purpose-built for polar navigation. Fully stabilized, highly strengthened, ice-class Polar Code PC5 (Category A) vessels, she is designed to navigate polar passages year-round, and safely explore uncharted waters, while providing exceptional comfort. The patented X-bow® is key to the design; its powerful wave-slicing action provides an extremely smooth ride even in adverse conditions, and even reduces spray on deck for superior observation. She carries a full suite of expedition tools, and offers a variety of experience enhancing amenities.

PUBLIC AREAS: Observation lounge with bar, three dining areas, gym, wellness area, infinity-style outdoor hot tubs, library, main lounge with full service bar, 24-hour beverage, state-of-the-art facilities for films, slideshows and presentations, and a photo workshop area; plus, an expedition base with lockers for expedition gear, and an “open Bridge” for access to our captain, officers and the art of navigation.

MEALS: Two restaurants, featuring local, sustainable choices and unassigned seating for flexible, inclusive dining; plus a Chef’s table for intimate, small group dining. Main restaurant has 270° views, and the Observation deck restaurant features lighter, made-to-order fare.

CABINS: All cabins face outside with large windows, private facilities and climate controls. 53 cabins have balconies. Cabins are equipped with expedition command centers with tablets and USB/mobile device docking, TVs, Wi-Fi connections, and hair dryers.

EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT: Zodiacs, kayaks, snowshoes, cross-country skis, Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) and underwater video camera for unique access to polar marine world, hydrophone, aerial remote-controlled camera, video microscope, and OM System Photo Gear Locker.

SPECIAL FEATURES: A full-time doctor, undersea specialist, National Geographic photography expert, Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic certified photo instructor, an internet cafe and laundry.

WELLNESS: The vessel is staffed by our wellness specialists and features a glass-enclosed yoga studio, gym, treatment rooms and spa relax area, and high and low-heat saunas with ocean views.



From top: spacious bathroom; library with a view.



Clockwise from left: Restaurant 270°; standard cabin; suite with balcony.

CATEGORY 1: Fore Deck #406, 408, 411, 413, 415 Cabins face outside with two large windows, and feature alcove seating.

CATEGORY 2: Fore Deck #410, 412, 414, 416-419, 421-427 Cabins face outside with two large windows and feature alcove seating.

CATEGORY 3: Main Deck—#512, 514-524 Suites face outside with a balcony, feature a seating area and a pull-out sofa.

CATEGORY 4: Lounge Deck—#608, 610, 612, 613-623 Suites face outside with a balcony, feature a seating area and a pull-out sofa.

CATEGORY 5: Bridge Deck—#708, 709, 711, 713 Suites face outside with a balcony, feature a seating area and a pull-out sofa.

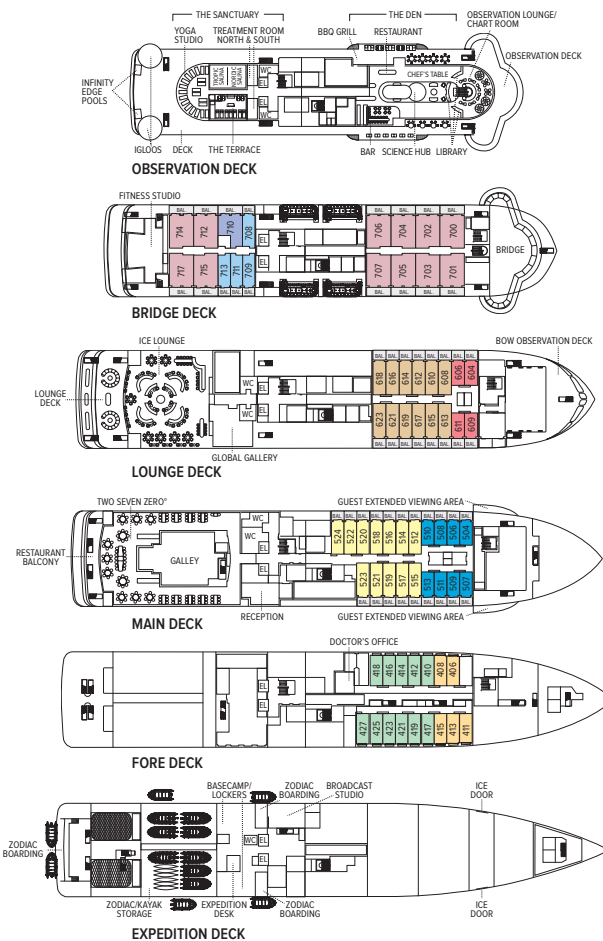
CATEGORY 6: Bridge Deck—#710 Suite faces outside with a balcony, features a seating area and a pull-out sofa.

CATEGORY 7: Bridge Deck—#700-707, 712, 714-717 Junior Suites face outside with a balcony, feature a seating area, pull-out sofa and a bathtub.

CATEGORY A SOLO: Main Deck—#504, 506-511, 513 Cabins face outside with a balcony.

CATEGORY B SOLO: Lounge Deck—#604, 606, 609, 611 Cabins face outside with a balcony.

All cabins have: Ability to set up as queen or two singles (except solo cabins, which are set up as one single), command center with docking for multiple devices, atlas, clock, barometer, TV, phone, digital tablet for onboard info, hair dryer, safe, refrigerator.



SEE MORE ONLINE: Learn more about *National Geographic Resolution* at expeditions.com/resolution

Take Advantage of Our Special Offers

AIR CREDIT—BOOK BY JANUARY 13, 2023: Air credit will be deducted from cabin fare, prior to any additional applicable savings and is available on select departures.

4TH GUEST TRAVELS FREE: Bookings of three full-paying guests may bring a fourth person for free on select departures. Offer applicable only on bookings of two double-occupancy cabins, and second cabin must be in same category or lower as first cabin.

SOLO EXPLORERS OFFER—BOOK BY JANUARY 13, 2023: Waive the solo premium on solo cabins on select departures.

BRINGING THE KIDS: We believe sharing an expedition with your kids or grandkids is a life-enhancing experience. Take \$500 off for each child under the age of 18 on any other departure.

WITH COMPLIMENTS: We will cover your bar tab and tips to the ship's crew on all departures aboard *National Geographic Orion* and *National Geographic Resolution*.

BACK-TO-BACK SAVINGS: Save 10% on any consecutive journeys taken on board our expedition ships. 10% savings is applicable on voyage fares only and is not valid on extensions or airfare.

TRAVELING AS A GROUP: On select departures of *Wild Polynesia Escape*, groups traveling with six or more adults will receive 10% off on select departures. On other expeditions, save 5% when traveling as a group of eight or more. This savings is applicable to voyage fares only. Deposit, final payments, and cancellation policies for group travel vary from our regular policies.

COMBINING OFFERS: Certain offers may be combinable, up to two savings opportunities except where noted otherwise. For example, travel with a group of eight or more on back-to-back expeditions, and take advantage of both savings.

All offers listed are valid for new bookings only on select departures, not applicable on extensions or airfare, and are subject to availability at the time of booking. Call for details.

Inclusive Pricing

We include just about everything you have the opportunity to do as part of your expedition aboard ship and ashore. The only things not included are those of a personal nature—internet usage, wellness treatments, and other specialized arrangements.

ABOARD SHIP

- ✓ All meals, alcoholic beverages (except certain super-premium brands) and non-alcoholic beverages
- ✓ Cappuccinos, lattes & complimentary refillable water bottle
- ✓ 24-hour coffee, tea & soda on demand
- ✓ Hors d'oeuvres & snacks during lounge recap
- ✓ Sauna
- ✓ Fitness center
- ✓ Fully stocked library
- ✓ The guidance and company of our expedition staff
- ✓ Gratuities to ship's crew

ASHORE

- ✓ Meals and accommodations on land, as indicated in itinerary
- ✓ Special access permits, park fees, port taxes
- ✓ Transfers to and from group flights
- ✓ The expertise of our expedition staff

ACTIVITIES

- ✓ All excursions
- ✓ Zodiac & kayak explorations
- ✓ Snorkeling and paddleboarding (where indicated)
- ✓ Lectures & presentations in the lounge

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RESERVATION INFORMATION

Terms & Conditions: For complete terms and conditions please visit expeditions.com/terms

Pricing: For best pricing book early. Prices quoted in this brochure are in USD per person based on double occupancy, valid as of the time of printing, are subject to modification based on select departures and availability at time of booking, and are not guaranteed until booking and required deposit is made.

Pricing Includes: All accommodations aboard ship or in hotels per itinerary or similar; all meals and alcoholic beverages aboard ship (excepting certain super-premium brands) and tips to the ship's crew.; meals on land as indicated, accompanied by nonalcoholic beverages; air transportation where indicated as included; shore excursions; sightseeing and entrance fees; special access permits; transfers to and from group flights; use of snorkeling equipment and wetsuits (where applicable); use of kayaks and/or stand-up paddleboards (where applicable); taxes and service charges; services of a ship physician and services of our expedition staff. Unused services or items included in our programs are non-refundable.

Not Included: Air transportation (except where specified as included), charter airfare (where applicable), extensions, passport, visa, immigration fees, meals not indicated, scuba diving aboard *National Geographic Orion* for pre-qualified divers (available at additional cost); travel protection plan, items of a personal nature, such as internet access, voyage chronicle, and laundry.

Airfare: For all programs, airfare is an additional cost unless otherwise indicated. We will gladly assist in making your air arrangements for a \$50 per person service fee.

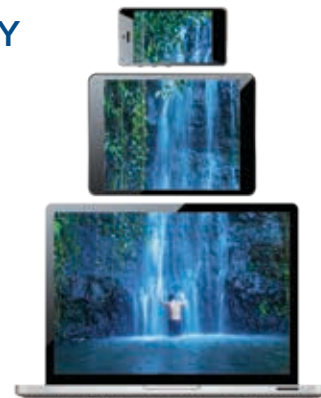
Reservations, Deposits, and Final

Payments: To reserve your place, an advance payment is required at the time of reservation. Receipt of advance payment indicates your acceptance of the terms and conditions. Final payment schedule can be found online. Visit expeditions.com/terms for complete details about deposits and final payment schedules which may vary by ship.

Travel Protection Plan: We strongly recommend that you take advantage of

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our Travel Protection Plan. This plan offers comprehensive coverage to protect you from cancellation fees, costs incurred due to trip delays/interruption, medical assistance, and damaged or lost baggage, and provides medical assistance and evacuation during your travels. Our Travel Protection Plan is available for U.S. residents only and may be purchased any time prior to final payment due date. If you are not satisfied for any reason, you may return your plan within 10 days after purchase. Your premium will be refunded if canceled within 10 days, provided you have not already departed on the trip or filed a claim. When so returned, the coverage under the plan is void from the original date of purchase.

Responsibility and Other Terms & Conditions:

Certain provisions concerning, among other things, limitations of Lindblad Expeditions' and National Geographic Expeditions' (a division of National Geographic Partners, LLC) liability for loss of property, injury, illness, or death during the voyage will be provided to all guests on the ship's ticket sent prior to departure, and are also available on our website at expeditions.com/terms, or upon request. By

registering for a trip, the guest agrees to all such terms and conditions.

Note: Itineraries and prices listed in this brochure are as of publication date and are subject to change. Book early for best fares.

Cancellation Policy: Call for details or visit expeditions.com/book-assured or expeditions.com/cancellation-policy

New Expedition Dates, Same Exceptional Experiences: Beginning in 2024, Day 1 of our itineraries will no longer reflect "departure from the U.S." and will reflect "arrival to the city" where your expedition begins. The actual durations of expeditions will remain unchanged. Visit expeditions.com/newdates for details.

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**For Reservations: Contact your travel advisor or Lindblad Expeditions
1.877.689.1962**

Reservation Hours: Monday – Friday 9am – 9pm ET

Saturday & Sunday 10am – 5pm ET


Lindblad Expeditions, Inc., 96 Morton Street, New York, NY 10014

For additional information and online reservations, visit us on the Web: expeditions.com

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PAC-112

Special Offer

Solo premium waived on select departures.
See page 38 for details.

